(b) Since the inception of ONGS's Institute of Reservoir Studies in 1978, a total of 113 Officers have been sent abroad for the purpose of training, conference, seminar or on business trips, in a need-based manner. Out of them, 18 happened to belong to SC/ST.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

Sending of Officers for Training in UDNP

4743. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of PETRILEUM and NATURAL GAS be please to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the last batch of officers who have joint a year or so back was sent for UNDP while officers of 1985 batch are yet to be sent for this programme;

(b) if so, details of officers not sent for training and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a general category lady officer who joined ONGC only two years back has been nominated leaving senior SC/ST officers; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Presumably, this Question concerns ONGC's Institute of Reservoir Studies, Ahmedabad. No such officer of this Institute who has joined a year or so back, has been sent for training under UNDP.

Out of the 37 officers of 1985 batch of this Institute, 18 officers have already been deputed or are being deputed for training under UNDP. Two officers have been deputed for other training. One officer is on extra ordinary leave for study purposes in USA. Out of the remaining officers, four have been nominated for World Bank and ADB programmes. The remaining 12 officers have not been nominated so far for any such training

(c) and (d) A lady officer who joined the Institute about three years back was nominated for training under UNDP, as per the decision taken by the Committee consisting of the representatives of the Government of India UNDP, and ONCS to nominate suitable women representative.

Resentment on privatisation of ONGC

4744. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Resentment in North-East over ONGC's privatisation moves" appearing in the Pioneer dated 2nd February, 1994; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Some apprehensions regarding development of small and medium sized oil/gas field by private companies had been raised by the employees of ONGC. Discussions have been held by the management with the employees to explain to them the rational of the scheme.

Action Plan of ONGC to Train SC/ST Officers

4745. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the action plan of ONGC to train SC/ST officers abroad through direct on the job training, work associated and by visits abroad ;

(b) whether it is a fact that officers from general category have been sent 7 to 8 times abroad ; and

(c) if so, what is the action plan to remove this disparity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Officers from ONGC Ltd. are sent for training, work association abroad based on their fulfilling the criteria of eligibility for the programme concerned.